REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY HEADQUARTERS, 1ST SIGNAL BRIGADE (NETCOM/9TH ASC) **UNIT# 15271** APO AP 96205-5271

NETC-SKC

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

25 MAY 2006

SUBJECT: Memorial Day Weekend Holiday Safety Message (27-30 May 2006)

- 1. Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 May 1868 by General John Logan, National Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, and was first observed on 30 May 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate Soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. Today, Memorial Day is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. This Memorial Day, let us all pause to remember those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in defending our nation and preserving freedom.
- 2. In addition to honoring our fallen comrades, Memorial Day also marks the beginning of summer which is a period of increased outdoor activities such as picnics, barbeques and outdoor recreational activities, etc. These activities are enjoyable and I encourage all 1st Signal Brigade Soldiers and Civilians to take the time to participate and enjoy them. Unfortunately, these activities can bring with them certain risks and hazards which can be mitigated using Composite Risk Management process.
- 3. Here in Korea, we will not experience a significant increase in traffic congestion on the already congested Korean roadways, but the associated travel risks will remain high. For those of you who will travel by POV over this holiday period, I strongly recommend you adhere to the following precautions: PREPARE your vehicle for traveling; always wear a SAFETY SEATBELT and ensure all persons in the vehicle are properly secured; **Drive** with patience and **EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED**. For those returning and driving in CONUS, completion of the POV Risk Assessment Tool (ASMIS-2) located on the United States Army Combat Readiness Center website at https://crc.army.mil is required for POV risk management.
- 4. Prior to dismissal on 26 May 2006, Commanders will ensure that pre-Memorial Day holiday weekend safety briefings are presented to their personnel and POV inspections are completed. Along with the standard holiday weekend safety topics, these briefings will also include instructions to use the buddy system when venturing off post, to stay clear of any demonstrations, and to place special attention on your surroundings at all times. Remember, we must take care of each other.
- 5. CSM Grigsby and I wish you and your families a safe and pleasant Memorial Day holiday weekend. Remember, safety must never take a day off; it must become an integral and necessary part of everything we do.

"FIRST TO COMMUNICATE!"

Command Sergeant Major

LAWAKKEN V. PATTERSON

COL, SC

Commanding